

Amendments to the Specification are as follows:

Before the first sentence on page 1 please insert the following paragraph.

This application claims the benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-068524 herein incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 and ending on page 2, line 21 as follows:

An example of a specific function of the passive keyless entry system will now be described. A vehicle-mounted unit 2 transmits a request signal that is broadcast at a recurring interval over time and is uniform in its frequency of occurrence. The request signal includes a vehicle-mounted unit ID and whose broadcast range extends a relatively short distance. When a portable unit 20 is outside the effective broadcast range of the request signal transmitted by the vehicle-mounted unit, the portable unit does not receive the request signal. When a person who carries the remotely held portable unit approaches a vehicle and enters the effective range of the request signal broadcasted by the vehicle-mounted unit, the remotely held portable unit will check the vehicle-mounted unit ID that the onboard unit ~~has~~ embedded within its request signal. When the portable unit determines that the vehicle-mounted unit ID has been transmitted from an authentic vehicle-mounted unit, the portable unit transmits a response signal in reply to the vehicle-mounted unit's request signal.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 22 and ending on page 3, line 9 as follows:

The vehicle-mounted unit receives the response signal, derives the portable unit ID included in the response signal, collates the portable unit ID registered in a memory and the portable unit ID in the response signal. The vehicle-mounted unit transmits an unlock signal to the door-locking mechanism when the portable unit ID and the registered portable unit ID match. The door-locking mechanism then is unlocked (the locking of the door-locking mechanism is released). When the person who carries the portable unit gets ~~out of~~ the vehicle and goes away therefrom, the vehicle-

mounted unit transmits a lock signal to the door-locking mechanism at the moment in time when the portable unit cannot receive the request signal, that is, at the moment in time when the vehicle-mounted unit cannot receive the response signal.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 10 and ending on page 3, line 25 as follows:

According to structural examples other than the passive keyless entry system, when an operator gets in a vehicle, the door-locking mechanism is unlocked by communications between the vehicle-mounted unit and the portable unit using the operation of an outside handle in the vehicle's door as a trigger. When the operator gets out of the vehicle, the door-locking mechanism is locked by sensing the operation of the outside handle when ~~the condition where the state of the vehicle door is changed from openedness to closedness~~ (For example, refer to Patent Document 1). ~~Since there is no description that a~~ No method of operating the outside handle that distinguishes when the operator gets in a vehicle ~~is not distinguished from a method of operating the outside handle when the operator gets out of the vehicle exists.~~ Thus, it appears that the operation of the outside handle when the operator getting in a vehicle is not dissimilar from the operation of the outside handle when the operator gets out of the vehicle.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7 and ending on page 5, line 1 as follows:

In the passive keyless entry system of Patent Document 1, the communication between the vehicle-mounted unit and the portable unit are triggered by the operation of the outside handle. Thus, the matter of the economy in power consumption of the vehicle is solved. However, the way for instructing the locking mechanism to be unlocked when the operator gets in a vehicle is the same as that for instructing the locking mechanism to be locked when the operator gets out of the vehicle. In other words, the operation of pulling the outside handle triggers a passive operation in any

case. Therefore, means for distinguishing the unlocking of the vehicle door when the operator gets in on a vehicle from the locking of the vehicle door when the operator gets out of the vehicle is required. In Patent Document 1, the history of the openness and the closeness of the vehicle door are used as the above means particularly with respect to the locking of the vehicle door when the operator gets out of the vehicle. It is determined whether the locking of the vehicle door is intended when the operator gets out of the vehicle by sensing that the outside handle is pulled after the vehicle door is opened and then that the vehicle door is closed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 2 and ending on page 5, line 16 as follows:

However, the operation of an operator required for adopting the means is extremely unnatural. In other words, after opening the vehicle door in order to get out of the vehicle and getting out of the vehicle, the operator must look for the outside handle of the vehicle door, which is opened and is not positioned, and then close the vehicle door after pushing the outside handle to the original position. Further, there exists a function of locking the door-locking mechanism by closing the vehicle door with the outside handle of the opened door pulled as mentioned above in addition to the function of the passive keyless entry system. However, the above-mentioned operation is troublesome and the function itself does need not accompany the passive keyless entry system.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17 and ending on page 6, line 13 as follows:

When the outside handle is pulled, the vehicle door is opened after releasing the locking of the door-locking mechanism by pulling the outside handle when the operator gets on a vehicle and the door-locking mechanism is locked by pulling the outside handle when the operator gets out of the vehicle. However, it is not natural to lock the door-locking mechanism by

performing the same operation as the operation for releasing the locking of (unlocking) the door-locking mechanism from the viewpoint of the operation (since the door-locking mechanism is locked by performing the operation of pulling the outside handle). This is also important in terms of crime prevention. That is, when the operator operates the outside handle in order to get in the vehicle, the locking of the door-locking mechanism is released. However, if the operator changes his or her mind and goes away from the vehicle without opening the vehicle door at the moment in time when the locking of the door-locking mechanism is released, a state in which the locking of the door-locking mechanism is released is maintained. ~~As a result, the matter of the crime prevention is caused. That is, This cause~~there is a high probability that the operator considers that the door-locking mechanism is locked irrespective of the operation for locking or unlocking the door-locking mechanism.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22 and ending on page 7, line 25 as follows:

~~Figs. 1A and 1B is area block diagram illustrating aspects~~ schematic and sectional views of operating and switching an outside handle in a passive keyless entry system according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 5 and ending on page 10, line 15 as follows:

First, the basic function of the present embodiment will be schematically described. A door-locking mechanism is unlocked by bi-directional communication between a vehicle-mounted unit and a portable unit with the lapse of the operations of the outside handle 1 from the position O to the position B when the operator gets ~~in~~ on a vehicle. Further, the door-locking mechanism is locked by the bi-directional communication between the vehicle-mounted unit and the portable unit by further pushing the outside handle 1 inwardly from the position O when the operator gets ~~out of~~ off the vehicle.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 16 and ending on page 10, line 28 as follows:

Specifically, the outside handle 1 holds its stable position in the normal position O with biasing means (not shown). When the outside handle 1 is pulled into the direction of the position B, the second actuator 8 of the first switch 5 is operated in the position A where the outside handle 1 is positioned in an initial stage of the pulling operation, by the driving unit 4 integral with the outside handle 1 to thereby turn on the first switch 5. To the contrary, when the outside handle 1 is pushed from the normal position O to the position C, the second actuator 8 of the second switch 7 is operated by the driving unit 4 integral with the outside handle 1 to thereby turn on the second switch 7.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 21 and ending on page 11, line 28 as follows:

In Fig. 3, when the operator pushes the outside handle 1 into the direction of the position C that is opposite to the direction of the position B, in which the vehicle door is opened, using the PKE system according to the present embodiment, while getting out of the vehicle (refer to Fig. 1), the second actuator 8 of the second switch 7 is operated in the position C where the pushing operation is performed to thereby generate the trigger signal that allows the vehicle-mounted unit to transmit the LF request signal including the vehicle-mounted unit ID. The portable unit receives the request signal, collates the vehicle-mounted unit ID included in the received request signal with an authentic vehicle-mounted unit ID, and transmits a radio frequency (RF) response signal including a portable unit ID. The vehicle-mounted unit receives the response signal, collates the portable unit ID included in the received response signal with an authentic portable unit ID, and locks the door-locking mechanism after determining that the trigger signal has been received from the second switch 7 when the former coincides with the latter.

Moreover, the door-locking mechanism is locked after forcibly closing the door outer plate 2. When the outside handle 1 is pushed, the door outer plate 2 is forcibly closed to thereby lock the door-locking mechanism.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 18 and ending on page 13, line 21 as follows:

As mentioned above, according to the present embodiment, the door-locking mechanism is unlocked by the operation of pulling the outside handle 1 and the door-locking mechanism is locked by the operation of pushing the outside handle 1. Therefore, it is not necessary to provide an exclusive switch in the vehicle door after locking or unlocking the door-locking mechanism, and it is possible to unlock the door-locking mechanism by the operation of opening the outside handle and to lock the door-locking mechanism by the operation of closing the outside handle. As a result, it is possible to unlock or lock the door-locking mechanism in accordance with the intention of the operator who operates the outside handle. That is, it is possible to unlock the door-locking mechanism by pulling the outside handle (the vehicle door is commonly opened by the operation of pulling the outside handle) and to lock the door-locking mechanism by pushing the outside handle (the vehicle door is commonly closed by the operation of pushing the vehicle door or the outside handle). As a result, it is possible to lock and unlock the door-locking mechanism in accordance with the operations of the outside handle intended by the operator (the intention of closing the vehicle door or opening the vehicle door). ~~Incidentally, according to Patent Document 1 described in the related art, a method of operating the outside handle when the operator gets on a vehicle is not distinguished from a method of operating the outside handle when the operator gets off the vehicle. Therefore, the operation of the outside handle when the operator gets on a vehicle is not different from the operation of the outside handle when the operator gets off the vehicle.~~